

GOVERNOR ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER

PROCLAMATION

Community Action Agencies created by the Economic Opportunity Act of 1964 have provided low-income Californians with innovative and cost-effective programs for 42 years.

Community Action Agencies meet the needs of local communities in a variety of ways, but all programs align with six common goals: increasing self-sufficiency and improving living conditions for low income people; supporting low-income people as stakeholders in the community; meeting the potential of low-income people by strengthening family and support systems; achieving partnerships among supporters and service providers; and increasing capacity by agencies in achieving results.

The Department of Community Services and Development, California's designated administrator of federal Community Service Block Grant funds, will distribute funding to 46 Community Action Agencies in 2006 to support such diverse programs and services as job training and assistance; emergency, transitional and permanent housing; domestic violence, gang and child abuse prevention; feeding the young and elderly; health, dental and vision care; parenting and financial counseling; and disaster preparedness.

In the immediate wake of natural catastrophes, California Community Action Agencies are positioned as the first line of assistance. Hurricane Katrina victims relocating to California in 2005 found one-stop intake centers provided by Community Action Agencies, and 4,453 evacuees received direct services, including housing and household goods.

"Community Action Month" serves as a reminder that California can count on Community Action Agencies to help those most in need when they need help the most.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA, do hereby proclaim May 2006 as "Community Action Month."